

PATENT

Attorney Docket No. BSC-093C8

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Gordon *et al.*

SERIAL NO.: Not Yet Assigned GROUP NO.: 3731

FILING DATE: Herewith EXAMINER: Not Yet Assigned

TITLE: Suturing Instruments and Methods of Use

Mail Stop: Patent Application

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, Applicants hereby make of record the references listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (d), the cited references are not enclosed. The references were previously cited and made of record in parent application serial no. 07/941,382, now U.S. Patent No. 5,364,408; application serial no. 08/554,743, now U.S. Patent No. 5,713,910; application serial no. 08/743,886, now U.S. Patent No. 5,741,279; application serial no. 09/058,530, now U.S. Patent No. 6,048,351; and/or application serial no. 09/860,344.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

(1) within three (3) months of the **filing date** of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d), or within three (3) months of the **date of entry of the national stage** as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing of the **first Office action** on the merits, or before the mailing of a **first Office action** after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114; or

(2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **final action** or a **notice of allowance** under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, and

the requisite Statement is below, OR

the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein, or

(3) after the mailing date of a **final action or notice of allowance** but before the payment of the **issue fee**, **AND**

the requisite Statement is below, **AND**

the requisite petition fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00** is included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the patents and publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, be made of record in this application.

STATEMENT

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), Applicant(s), through the undersigned, hereby state either that [check the appropriate space only if either (2) or (3) is checked on the previous page and the Statement is required]:

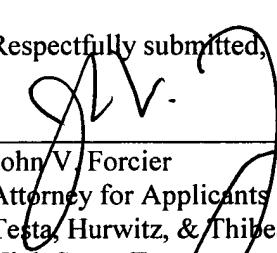
1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or

2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any individual** designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) **more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Date: September 12, 2003
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Respectfully submitted,

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FORM PTO – 1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: BSC-093C8 APPLICANT(S): Gordon <i>et al.</i> SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned FILING DATE: Herewith GROUP: Not yet assigned			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	342,773	06/01/86	Bailey			
	A2	919,138	4/20/09	Drake <i>et al.</i>			
	A3	1,037,864	9/10/12	Carlson <i>et al.</i>			
	A4	1,449,087	03/20/23	Bugbee			
	A5	1,815,725	7/21/31	Pilling <i>et al.</i>			
	A6	1,822,330	09/08/31	Ainslie			
	A7	2,577,240	12/04/51	Findley			
	A8	2,579,192	12/18/51	Kohl			
	A9	3,013,559	12/19/61	Thomas			
	A10	3,160,157	12/08/64	Chisman			
	A11	3,470,875	10/07/69	Johnson			
	A12	3,638,653	02/01/72	Berry			
	A13	3,840,017	10/08/74	Violante			
	A14	3,918,455	11/11/75	Coplan			
	A15	3,946,740	03/30/76	Bassett			
	A16	4,161,951	07/24/79	Scanlan, Jr.			
	A17	4,164,225	08/14/79	Johnson <i>et al.</i>			
	A18	4,224,947	09/30/80	Fukuda			
	A19	4,235,177	11/25/80	Arbuckle			
	A20	4,236,470	12/02/80	Stenson			
	A21	4,236,470	12/00/80	Caspari			
	A22	4,312,337	01/26/82	Donhue			
	A23	4,345,601	08/24/82	Fukuda			
	A24	4,493,323	01/15/85	Albright <i>et al.</i>			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A25	4,548,202	Oct-1985	Duncan			
	A26	4,557,265	12/10/85	Andersson			
	A27	4,596,249	06/24/86	Freda <i>et al.</i>			
	A28	4,602,635	07/29/86	Mulholland <i>et al.</i>			
	A29	4,621,640	11/11/86	Mulholland <i>et al.</i>			
	A30	4,635,638	01/13/87	Weintraub <i>et al.</i>			
	A31	4,762,260	Aug-1988	Richards <i>et al.</i>			
	A32	4,781,190	11/01/88	Lee			
	A33	4,890,615	01/02/90	Caspari <i>et al.</i>			
	A34	4,898,155	02/06/90	Ovil <i>et al.</i>			
	A35	4,899,746	02/13/90	Brunk			
	A36	4,923,461	05/08/90	Caspari <i>et al.</i>			
	A37	4,926,860	05/22/90	Stice <i>et al.</i>			
	A38	4,935,027	06/19/90	Yoon			
	A39	4,957,498	09/18/90	Caspari <i>et al.</i>			
	A40	5,037,433	08/06/91	Wilk <i>et al.</i>			
	A41	5,047,039	09/10/91	Avant <i>et al.</i>			
	A42	5,067,957	11/26/91	Jervis			
	A43	5,100,415	03/31/92	Hayhurst			
	A44	5,100,418	03/31/92	Yoon <i>et al.</i>			
	A45	5,100,421	03/31/92	Christoudias			
	A46	5,100,498	Mar-1992	Takeuchi <i>et al.</i>			
	A47	5,188,636	02/23/93	Fedotov			
	A48	5,258,011	Nov-1993	Drews			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A49	5,306,281	04/26/94	Beurrier			
	A50	5,308,353	05/03/94	Beurrier			
	A51	5,324,298	Jun-1994	Phillips et al.			
	A52	5,364,408	11/15/94	Gordon			
	A53	5,387,221	02/07/95	Bisgaard			
	A54	5,389,103	02/14/95	Melzer et al.			
	A55	5,391,174	02/21/95	Weston			
	A56	5,417,699	05/23/95	Klein et al.			
	A57	5,458,609	10/17/95	Gordon et al.			
	A58	5,527,321	Jun-1996	Hinchliffe			
	A59	5,540,704	July-1996	Gordon et al.			
	A60	5,573,542	Nov-1996	Stevens			
	A61	5,575,800	Nov-1996	Gordon			
	A62	5,578,044	Nov-1996	Gordon et al.			
	A63	5,662,664	Sept-1997	Gordon et al.			
	A64	5,700,272	Dec-1997	Gordon et al.			
	A65	5,713,910	Feb-1998	Gordon et al.			
	A66	5,741,277	Apr-1998	Gordon et al.			
	A67	5,741,279	Apr-1998	Gordon et al.			
	A68	5,364,408	11/15/94	Gordon			
	A69	5,458,609	10/17/95	Gordon et al.			
	A70	5,540,704	7/30/96	Gordon et al.			
	A71	5,578,044	11/26/96	Gordon et al.			
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A67	5,713,910	2/3/98	Gordon et al.			
	A68	6,048,351	4/11/00	Gordon et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY CODE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE	ABSTRACT ONLY	ENGLISH LANG (Y/N)
	B1	0 140 557	May-1985	EPO-Kollmar					
	B2	1093329	May-1984	Soviet Union- Kalinin					
	B3	1028320	Jul-1983	Soviet Union- Dekhtyar					
	B4	WO/93/01750	Feb-1993	W.I.P.O. - Melzer					
	B5	WO/90/03766	Apr-1990	W.I.P.O. - Petros					
	B6	647813	Sep-1962	Canada - Kennison					
	B7	0 674 875	Oct-1995	EPO-Laurus					
	B8	0 589 409	Mar-1994	EPO - Hinchliffe					
	B9	18,602	Sep-1909	Great Britain- Mitchell					
	B10	2 247 841	Mar-1992	Great Britain - Pierce					
	B11	WO/92/12674	Aug-1992	W.I.P.O.- Bisgaard					
	B12	WO/94/05123	Mar-1994	W.I.P.O.-Laurus					
	B13	WO/94/13211	Jun-1994	WIPO-Perclose (Klein)					

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EXAM. INIT.		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY CODE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE	ABSTRACT ONLY	ENGLISH LANG (Y/N)
	B14	969,254	Oct.-1982	Soviet Union					
	B15	2 268 690 A	1/19/94	GB Lopez					
	B16	WO 96/27331	9/12/96	PCT					
OTHER ART, JOURNAL ARTICLES, ETC.									
EXAM. INIT.	OTHER DOCUMENTS: (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)								
	C1	Description of "REMA DEEP SUTURE", publication status and dates unknown, original document in German, English translation attached.							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED				

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